

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 1, 3, 10 and 11, and leaves claim 2 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1-3, 10 and 11.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on August 7, 2003. However, the Examiner has not returned an initialed copy of the IDS. Therefore, Applicants submit, herewith, a copy of the IDS filed on August 7, 2003. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the IDS and to provide an initialed copy of the IDS, acknowledging consideration of the references.

Claim for Foreign Priority

Applicants filed a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119, claiming the right for priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-123632. The claim for foreign priority and the certified copy of the priority document was filed on August 7, 2003. However, the Examiner has not acknowledged Applicants' claim for foreign priority or the receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's acknowledgement of Applicants' claim for foreign priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0002637 to Miyauchi et al. ("Miyauchi"). This rejection is traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now

more clearly recited in claims 1-3, 10 and 11 are not taught or suggested by Miyauchi, whether taken individually or in combination any of the other references of record. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Amendments were made to the claims to more clearly describe features of the present invention. Specifically, amendments were made to the claims to more clearly recite that the present invention is directed to a telephone and a call connection control method, as recited, for example, in independent claims 1 and 10.

The present invention, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10, provides a telephone applicable to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) and an Internet Protocol (IP) network. The telephone includes a first interface and a second interface. The first interface transmits and receives analog signals over the PSTN, while the second interface transmits and receives packet data over the IP network. The telephone also includes a means for communicating with a telephone number translation server connected to the IP network through the second interface when a call is originated by entering a PSTN telephone number and obtaining from the telephone number translation server an IP network telephone number of a destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number. The telephone further includes a means for communicating with a call agent connected to the IP network through the second interface to obtain IP address information of the destination telephone corresponding to the IP network telephone number, and establishing a call connection with the destination telephone via the IP network by using the IP address information.

Furthermore, the telephone includes a means for establishing a call connection with the destination telephone via the PSTN through the first interface if the IP network telephone number of the destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number cannot be obtained from the telephone number translation server. The prior art does not disclose all of these features.

The above described features of the present invention, as now more clearly recited in the claims, are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Miyauchi, whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record.

Miyauchi teaches an Internet telephone network system, a network access method, and a talking device adapter. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Miyauchi of the telephone or the call connection control method as recited in claim 1 and 10 of the present invention.

Miyauchi describes where an internet telephone adapter connected to a conventional telephone set has a problem of not being able to make a normal telephone call by switching to the PSTN line when the Internet telephone cannot be used. Miyauchi teaches where the telephone equipment adapter is connected to both the PSTN line and the IP network, and where the PSTN line signal transmitting/receiving unit 1100 inputs a telephone number and message information from the telephone set 10. Then the designation identifying unit 200 obtains an IP address by mapping the telephone number, generates route selecting information, and hands over the route selecting information to the line connection switching unit 100. Based on the route selecting information, the line connection switching unit 100 selects one of a

route PSTN line 13 and a route from the IP network communication processing unit 5000 via the IP network 14, and transmits the message information to the telephone set 20.

One feature of the present invention, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10, includes a means for communicating with a telephone number translation server connected to the IP network through the second interface when a call is originated by entering a PSTN telephone number and obtaining from the telephone number translation server an IP network telephone number of a destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number. Miyauchi does not disclose this feature. To support the assertion that Miyauchi teaches a means for communicating with a telephone number translation server, the Examiner cites paragraph [0158]. However, neither the cited text, nor any other portion of Miyauchi teaches or suggests the claimed features. The cited text provides a description of Fig. 3, which shows a configuration of various units of the telephone equipment adapter. As shown in Fig. 3, Miyaushi discloses a telephone equipment adapter 12 that is associated with a telephone set 10. The telephone equipment adapter 12 has an address translation table 302 and a telephone number/IP address translation unit 300. The translation unit 300 translates a telephone number input from the telephone set to an IP address by referring to the translation table 302. Miyaushi's step of obtaining an IP address corresponding to an input telephone number is quite different from the present invention, where an IP network telephone number of a destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number is obtained from the telephone

number translation server. Therefore, Miyaushi does not teach or suggest the claimed feature.

Another feature of the present invention, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10, includes a means for communicating with a call agent connected to the IP network through the second interface to obtain IP address information of the destination telephone corresponding to the IP network telephone number, and establishing a call connection with the destination telephone via the IP network by using the IP address information. Miyauchi does not disclose this feature. To support the assertion that Miyauchi teaches a means for communicating with a call agent, the Examiner cites paragraph [0158]. However, neither the cited text nor any other portion of Miyauchi teaches or suggests the claimed features. For example, as previously discussed, Miyauchi does not teach where an IP network telephone number is obtained from the telephone number translation server, as in the present invention. Therefore, it follows that Miyauchi does not teach where IP address information of the destination telephone corresponding to the IP network telephone number is obtained by communicating with a call agent, in the manner claimed.

Yet another feature of the present invention, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10, include a means for establishing a call connection with the destination telephone via the PSTN through the first interface if the IP network telephone number of the destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number cannot be obtained from the telephone number translation server. To support the assertion that Miyauchi teaches a means for communicating with a call agent, the Examiner cites

paragraph [068]. However, neither the cited text, nor any other portion of Miyauchi teaches or suggests the claimed features. To further illustrate that Miyauchi does not teach or suggest the claimed features, the Examiner's attention is directed to paragraph [0177]. As described in paragraph [0177], Miyauchi teaches where a designation identifying unit 200 of a destination telephone set transmits its IP address if that IP address is not registered in the address translation table of the calling side. As described in paragraphs [0179] to [0182], the telephone set of Miyauchi makes a telephone call via the PSTN line when the IP address is not registered in the address translation table 302, and the IP addresses are exchanged after completing the call to register the received IP address to the address translation table. That is to say, Miyauchi teaches selecting one of the PSTN line or the IP network line, depending on whether the destination IP address has been registered in the address table 302. This is not the same as the present invention, where a call connection is established via the PSTN if the IP network telephone number of the destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number cannot be obtained from the telephone number translation server.

Therefore, Miyauchi fails to teach or suggest "means for communicating with a telephone number translation server connected to the IP network through said second interface when a call is originated by entering a PSTN telephone number and obtaining from the telephone number translation server an IP network telephone number of a destination telephone corresponding to the PSTN telephone number" as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10.

Furthermore, Miyauchi fails to teach or suggest “means for communicating with a call agent connected to the IP network through said second interface to obtain IP address information of the destination telephone corresponding to said IP network telephone number, and establishing a call connection with the destination telephone via the IP network by using the IP address information” as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10.

Even further, Miyauchi fails to teach or suggest “means for establishing a call connection with the destination telephone via the PSTN through said first interface if the IP network telephone number of the destination telephone corresponding to said PSTN telephone number cannot be obtained from said telephone number translation server” as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10.


Therefore, Miyauchi does not teach or suggest the features of the present invention, as recited in claims 1-3, 10 and 11. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 1-3, 10 and 11 as being anticipated by Miyauchi are respectfully requested.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references used in the rejection of claims 1-3, 10 and 11.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing Attorney Docket No. 520.43016X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Related Document not cited in our specification

(1) Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 10-257171 and Abstract thereof.